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N.Y. Times Series

BY:

ARTICLES ON CIA

MOSCOW TASS INTERNATIONAL SERVICE IN ENGLISH 1410Z 27 APR 68 L

(TEXT) NEW YORK--THE NEW YORK TIMES HAS PRINTED A SERIES OF ARTICLES BY PROMINENT CORRESPONDENTS, WHO CONVINCINGLY EXPOSE THE ACTIVITIES OF THE U.S. CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE AFRICAN CONTINENT. ONE ARTICLE DESCRIBES THE OVERT AND COVERT ACTIVITY OF THE AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE SERVICE, WHICH WAS ONE OF THE FACTORS WHICH TURNED THE HISTORY OF THE PAST SIX YEARS IN THE CONGO INTO A REAL TRAGEDY.

THE AUTHORS STRESS THAT STARTING IN 1960, WHEN THE CONGO BECAME INDEPENDENT, THE MODEST, SMALL CIA BUREAU IN LEOPOLDVILLE OVERNIGHT TURNED INTO THE ACTUAL EMBASSY AND A WAR MINISTRY IN MINIATURE. STARTING PRACTICALLY FROM SCRATCH, IT DISPATCHED ITS AGENTS ALL OVER THE COUNTRY.

THE AUTHORS OF THE ARTICLE CITE NUMEROUS FACTS SHOWING THE COMPLICITY OF THE CIA IN BRINGING DOWN THE LUMUMBA GOVERNMENT AND LATER IN BRINGING MOISE TSHOMBE TO POWER. THE PAPER WRITES THAT THE CIA WAS THE PATRON, CASHIER, AND DIRECTOR OF THE PUNITIVE OPERATIONS AGAINST THE CONGOLESE REBELS.

BUT THE CONGO IS ONLY A FRAGMENT IN THE MOSAIC OF SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED IN INDEPENDENT AFRICAN COUNTRIES BY THE U.S. CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, WHICH ACCORDING TO THE NEW YORK TIMES BECAME AN INSTRUMENT FOR POLITICAL AND MILITARY INTERVENTION IN THE AFFAIRS OF OTHER COUNTRIES.

THE CIA AGENTS IN AFRICA, AS WELL AS IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD, ARE SUBDIVIDED INTO TWO GROUPS, THE NEWSPAPER WRITES. "FIRST, THERE ARE THOSE ENGAGED IN THE REALLY DIRTY BUSINESS--THE SPIES AND COUNTERSPIES, THE SABOTEURS, AND THE LEADERS OF PARAMILITARY OPERATIONS. SUCH AGENTS OPERATE UNDER THE DEEPEST COVER, AND THEIR ACTIVITIES BECOME KNOWN ONLY WHEN THEY ARE CAUGHT REDHANDED OR WHEN THEY ARE UNFORTUNATE ENOUGH TO BE 'SURFACED' FOR POLITICAL OR PROPAGANDA PURPOSES."

"SECONDLY," CONTINUES THE PAPER, "THERE ARE THOSE AGENTS--BY FAR THE LARGER NUMBER--WHO OPERATE UNDER THE LOOSER COVER OF AN OFFICIAL DIPLOMATIC MISSION. IN THE MISSION REGISTER THEY ARE LISTED AS POLITICAL OR ECONOMIC OFFICERS, TREASURY DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES, CONSULAR OFFICERS, OR EMPLOYEES OF THE AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT OR THE U.S. INFORMATION AGENCY."

"THIS OFFICIAL COVER IS SO THIN," WRITES THE NEW YORK TIMES, "AS TO BE MEANINGLESS EXCEPT TO AVOID EMBARRASSMENT TO THE HOST GOVERNMENT. THESE AGENTS ARE USUALLY READILY IDENTIFIABLE..."

"IN SOME EMBASSIES THE CIA AGENTS OUTNUMBER THE REGULAR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC OFFICERS. IN A FEW THEY HAVE MADE UP AS MUCH AS 75 PERCENT OF THE DIPLOMATIC MISSION."

27 APR 1740Z AT/LF